

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1531–S1575

Measures Introduced: Thirty-two bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 752–783, and S. Res. 115–118. **Pages S1569–70**

Measures Passed:

Honoring Army Chaplain Emil J. Kapaun: Senate agreed to S. Res. 118, honoring Army chaplain Emil J. Kapaun. **Page S1571**

Tai Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. **Pages S1541–51**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. EX. 122), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1541**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 17, 2021; that the post-cloture time expire at 11:30 a.m. **Page S1575**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 81 yeas 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 121), Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. **Pages S1531–41, S1575**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 80 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 120), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1539**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Janie Simms Hipp, of Arkansas, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

Leslie B. Kiernan, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

Christopher Charles Fonzone, of Pennsylvania, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Todd Sunhwae Kim, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Page S1575**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1568–69**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1570–71**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1571–74**

Additional Statements: **Page S1568**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1571**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—122) **Pages S1539, S1541**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 5:53 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1575.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Southern Command and United States Northern Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and Future Years Defense program, after receiving testimony from Admiral Craig S. Faller, USN, Commander, United States Southern Command, and General Glen VanHerck, USAF, Commander, United States Northern Command and

North American Aerospace Defense Command, both of the Department of Defense.

HOUSING IN AMERICA

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of housing in America, after receiving testimony from Christopher Herbert, Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Diane Yentel, National Low Income Housing Coalition, and Edward J. Pinto, AEI Housing Center, both of Washington, D.C.; Nikitra Bailey, Center for Responsible Lending, Durham, North Carolina; and Edward J. DeMarco, Housing Policy Council, Notre Dame, Indiana.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways to strengthen research and development in innovative transportation technologies with a focus on solutions that decrease emissions, reduce our reliance on foreign supply chains, and increase manufacturing in the United States, after receiving testimony from Kelly Speakes-Backman, Acting Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy; E. Adam Muellerweiss, Clarios, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Janvier Desire Nkurunziza, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Division on International Trade and Commodities, Geneva, Switzerland; Tony Satterthwaite, Cummins Inc., Columbus, Indiana; and Robert Wimmer, Toyota Motor North America, Inc., Gaithersburg, Maryland.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the effect of the U.S. tax code on domestic manufacturing, after receiving testimony from George Davis, Intel Corporation, Santa Clara, California; Jonathan Jennings, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan; Jay Timmons, National Association of Manufacturers, Washington, D.C.; Michelle Hanlon, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, Cambridge; and Donnie Blatt, United Steelworkers, Columbus, Ohio.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Padilla, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 58 public bills, H.R. 1895–1952; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 31; and H. Res. 232, 345–353, were introduced. **Pages H1410–13**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1414–16**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 233, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1620) to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6) to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1603) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to pro-

vide for terms and conditions for nonimmigrant workers performing agricultural labor or services, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1868) to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 17) removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–12) **Pages H1409–10**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Tlaib to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1367**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:19 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1369**

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Haaland, wherein she resigned as Representative for the First Congressional District of New Mexico, effective today, March 16, 2021.

Pages H1370–71

Whole Number of the House: The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from New Mexico, Ms. Haaland, the whole number of the House is 430.

Page H1371

Recess: The House recessed at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened at 3:02 p.m.

Page H1371

Recess: The House recessed at 5:37 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H1404

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021, American Dream and Promise Act of 2021, Amending the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for terms and conditions for nonimmigrant workers performing agricultural labor or services, Preventing across-the-board direct spending cuts, and Removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 233, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1620) to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6) to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1603) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for terms and conditions for nonimmigrant workers performing agricultural labor or services; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1868) to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts; and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 17) removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 212 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 78, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 204 nays, Roll No. 79. Pursuant to section 9 of House Resolution 233, House Resolution 232 is hereby adopted.

Pages H1393–H1407

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

PPP Extension Act of 2021: H.R. 1799, as amended, to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 80; and

Pages H1373–76, H1406

Stronger Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act: H.R. 485, to reauthorize the Child Abuse

Prevention and Treatment Act, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 345 yeas to 73 nays, Roll No. 81.

Pages H1376–89, H1406–07

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Awarding three congressional gold medals to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021: H.R. 1085, amended, to award three congressional gold medals to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021;

Pages H1371–73

COVID–19 Bankruptcy Relief Extension Act of 2021: H.R. 1651, amended, to amend the CARES Act to extend the sunset for the definition of a small business debtor; and

Pages H1389–90

VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021: H.R. 1652, amended, to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements.

Pages H1390–93

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1370.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1404–05, H1405, H1406, and H1407.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE ROLE OF FEMA AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN COVID–19 RESPONSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “The Role of FEMA and Emergency Management in COVID–19 Response”. Testimony was heard from Curtis Brown, State Coordinator, Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Bob Fenton, Senior Official Performing the Duties of Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Office of Emergency Services, California; Kevin McGowan, Director, Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, California; and Patrick Sheehan, Director, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

DISINFORMATION IN THE GRAY ZONE: OPPORTUNITIES, LIMITATIONS, AND CHALLENGES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations held a hearing entitled “Disinformation in the Gray Zone: Opportunities, Limitations, and Challenges”. Testimony was heard from Christopher Maier, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense, Special Operations/Low-intensity Conflict, Department of Defense; Neill Tipton, Director of Defense Intelligence (Collections and Special Programs), Department of Defense; and James Sullivan, Defense Intelligence Officer for Cyber, Defense Intelligence Agency.

MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATION REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FORT HOOD INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Military Criminal Investigative Organization Reform Recommendations from the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee”. Testimony was heard from Christopher Swecker, Chairman, Fort Hood Independent Review Committee; Carrie Ricci, Member, Fort Hood Independent Review Committee; Major General Donna W. Martin, Provost Marshal General and Commanding General, Criminal Investigation Command, U.S. Army; Brigadier General Terry Bullard, Commander (AFOSI/CC), Air Force Office of Special Investigations; Omar Lopez, Director, Naval Criminal Investigative Service; and public witnesses.

THE SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR AFGHANISTAN RECONSTRUCTION’S 2021 HIGH-RISK LIST

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction’s 2021 High-Risk List”. Testimony was heard from John F. Sopko, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

TO PREVENT ACROSS-THE-BOARD DIRECT SPENDING CUTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021; REMOVING THE DEADLINE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT; THE AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE ACT OF 2021; THE FARM WORKFORCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2021

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes; H.R. 1620, the

“Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021”; H.J. Res. 17, removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment; H.R. 6, the “American Dream and Promise Act of 2021”; and H.R. 1603, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2021”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1620, the “Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act” of 2021, H.R. 6, the “American Dream and Promise Act of 2021”, H.R. 1603, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2021”, H.R. 1868, To prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes, and H.J. Res. 17, Removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1620, the “Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–3, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Section 3 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3

of the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6, the “American Dream and Promise Act of 2021”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–4 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1603, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2021”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part C of the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 17, removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that House Resolution 232 is hereby adopted. The rule provides that notwithstanding clause 7(a) of rule X, during the 117th Congress, the period described in such clause shall end at midnight on April 22. Testimony was heard from Chairman Yarmuth, Chairman Lofgren, and

Representatives Smith of Missouri, Jackson Lee, and McClintock.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the income and wealth inequality crisis in America, 11 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine recent Federal actions to expand broadband, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: with the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water, to hold joint hearings to examine the challenges facing drinking water and waste water infrastructure projects, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine COVID–19 in the Nation’s nursing homes, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine advancing effective U.S. policy for strategic competition with China in the twenty-first century, 10 a.m., VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Florida, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and Rachel Leland Levine, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, and other pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 231, to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, S. 272, to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available, S. 583, to promote innovative acquisition techniques and procurement strategies, S. 517, to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, S. 671, to require the collection of voluntary feedback on services provided by agencies, S. 693, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, S. 658, to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, S. 636, to require the

Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, S. 688, to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, S. 522, to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100 word plain language summary of the proposed rule, S. 111, to establish the Federal Clearinghouse on School Safety Best Practices, S. 664, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to review certain legislation in order to identify potential risks of duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives, S. 566, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the “Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office”, H.R. 208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the “Colonel Carlyle ‘Smitty’ Harris Post Office”, and H.R. 264, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the “Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building”, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the Equality Act, focusing on LGBTQ rights, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the Paycheck Protection Program, focusing on performance, impact, and next steps, 2:30 p.m., SR-301.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled “Climate Change, National Security, and the Arctic”, 9 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled “DHS Management Challenges”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Domestic Manufacturing for a Clean Energy Future”, 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, hearing entitled “Rising to the Challenge: The Future of Higher Education Post COVID-19”, 1 p.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Leading the Way Forward: Biden Administration Actions to Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Averting a Crisis: Protecting Access to Health Care in the U.S. Territories”, 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Game Stopped? Who Wins and Loses When Short Sellers, Social Media, and Retail Investors Collide, Part II”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber, hearing entitled “Women Leading the Way: The Democratic Movement in Belarus”, 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights, hearing entitled “Update on COVID-19 in Africa”, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Way Forward on Homeland Security”, 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled “From Rescue to Recovery: Building a Thriving and Inclusive Post-Pandemic Economy”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled “Brain Drain: Rebuilding the Federal Scientific Workforce”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Business Case for Climate Solutions”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 1 p.m., HVC-304 Hearing Room. This meeting is closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 17

House Chamber

Consideration of H.J. Res. 17—Removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment. Consideration of H.R. 1620—Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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